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Executive Registry
10-5409

28 May 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT: Biography of General Donovan

I have been talking with Ole Doering about an idea I believe he has discussed with you on a book on General Donovan and OSS. Ole and some of the other partners want very much to do such a book and are willing to finance it. Their idea is a serious biographic study of General Donovan, culminating in a full-scale review of OSS and its contributions. They want it done on a serious rather than popular approach.

After considering various names, Ole would like to approach Professor Allan Nevins, a senior history Professor at Columbia who is retiring this year. Professor Nevins has done several serious biographic studies and is well known in scholastic circles. He was special representative of OWI to Australia and New Zealand in 1943-44, and Chief Public Affairs Officer of the American Embassy in London in 1945-46. He is also on the Council of Foreign Relations. Security has little on him but what there is seems to be a reputation for an intelligent, anti-Communist approach. Lyman Kirkpatrick knows of him and thinks well of this idea.

We have no idea whether Professor Nevins can or will want to do this, but if you have no other ideas shall we tell Ole to make the approach? If Professor Nevins undertakes this, we all feel he should have full access to the OSS records.

25X1

Lawrence R. Houston

<b>TRANSMITTAL SLIP</b>		DATE 11 July 1958	
TO: ER			
ROOM NO.		BUILDING	
REMARKS:  Apparently this was handed to Mr. Kirkpatrick at a deputies meeting. Pls file -- there may eventually be additional papers on this subject.			
FROM: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>			
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FORM NO. 241  
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REPLACES FORM 36-8  
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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